

women and minorities for promotions across all mission categories of the IC, and to reduce the gap among gender, racial, and ethnic categories at senior levels of the IC. The report shall contain a strategic plan from each element of the IC on the following:

- (1) Overcoming any barriers or obstacles identified in the report;
- (2) Proposing new or enhanced mentoring programs or similar workplace forums to support women and minority officers of the IC who are interested in or may qualify for promotion opportunities or other career advancements;
- (3) Recommending additional steps and initiatives to achieve diversity among senior roles in the IC; and
- (4) Addressing any gaps in relevant tools, resources, or authorities.

#### BRIEFINGS ON INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN CYBERSPACE

The Committees direct the Secretary of Defense, on a quarterly basis, to provide to the congressional intelligence committees and the congressional defense committees a briefing, with respect to the covered period, on the intelligence activities occurring in cyberspace conducted by United States Cyber Command in support of current and future offensive or defensive cyberspace operations.

#### SUBMISSION OF CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO THE CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEES

The Committees direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional intelligence committees any legislative proposal that (1) is proposed by the Secretary of Defense to Congress, (2) has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget, and (3) involves a grant, expansion, modification, or cessation of authority involving the intelligence, intelligence-related, or tactical intelligence activities of the Department of Defense. The Committees further direct that any such legislative proposals submitted to the congressional intelligence committees be accompanied by a brief explanation of the proposal.

#### OFFICE OF GLOBAL COMPETITION ANALYSIS

The Committees encourage the President to establish an Office of Global Competition Analysis ("the Office") to conduct analysis relevant to United States leadership in science, technology, and innovation sectors critical to national security and economic prosperity relative to other countries, and to support policy development and decision making across the federal government to ensure United States leadership in science, technology, and innovation sectors critical to national security and economic prosperity relative to other countries, particularly those countries that are strategic competitors of the United States.

The analysis conducted by the Office should cover:

- (1) United States policies that enable technological competitiveness relative to those of other countries, particularly with respect to countries that are strategic competitors of the United States;
- (2) United States science and technology ecosystem elements, including regional and national research and development capacity, technology innovation, science and engineering education and research workforce relative to those of other countries;
- (3) United States technology development, commercialization, and advanced manufacturing ecosystem elements, including supply chain resiliency, scale-up manufacturing testbeds, access to venture capital and financing, technical and entrepreneurial workforce, and production, relative to those of other countries;

(4) United States competitiveness in technology and innovation sectors critical to national security and economic prosperity relative to other countries, including the availability and scalability of United States technology in such sectors abroad;

(5) trends and trajectories, including rate of change in technologies, related to technology and innovation sectors critical to national security and economic prosperity;

(6) threats to United States national security interests as a result of any foreign country's dependence on technologies of strategic competitors of the United States; and

(7) threats to United States interests based on dependencies on foreign technologies critical to national security and economic prosperity.

The priorities of the Office should be established in coordination with the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Assistant to the President for Economic Policy, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, and such other officials as the President considers appropriate.

In carrying out the activities of the Office, the Committees expect:

(1) the Office will solicit input on technology and economic trends, data, and metrics from relevant private sector stakeholders, including entities involved in financing technology development and commercialization, and engage with academia to inform the analyses;

(2) the Office will acquire, access, use, and handle data or information in a manner consistent with applicable provisions of law and policy, including laws and policies providing for the protection of privacy and civil liberties, and subject to any restrictions required by the source of the information.

(3) the Office will receive access, upon written request, to all information, data, or reports of any Executive agency that the Office determines necessary to carry out its activities, to include commercially available information that may not be publicly available; and

(4) consistent with applicable law, the heads of departments or agencies within the Executive will detail personnel to the Office in order to assist the Office in its activities.

The Committees direct the President to submit to the appropriate congressional committees, within 180 days of the date of enactment of the Act, a report analyzing the need for the Office, including recommendations regarding the administrative structure of the Office, as well as a detailed spending plan that includes administrative costs.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 1109, Candace A. Bond, of Missouri, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

Had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 1108, Shefali Razdan Duggal, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 2455, Bijan Sabet, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Pleni-

potentiary of the United States of America to the Czech Republic.

#### TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JEFFREY "SLANDER" ENTINE

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments to recognize Lt. Col. Jeffrey "Slander" Entine, who has worked in my Senate office for the past year as a defense fellow. Lieutenant Colonel Entine is a patriot who has served our country nobly and made it a safer and better place. It has truly been a pleasure to have him in my office.

Lieutenant Colonel Entine graduated from Florida State University in 2006. After graduation, he commissioned as a second lieutenant and set off for pilot training in Mississippi. Lieutenant Colonel Entine stood out early during pilot training. Not only was he the distinguished graduate of his class, but he was also the best rated student pilot with the highest academic grade in his class.

Later, Lieutenant Colonel Entine deployed for 6 months to Kandahar Air Base, Afghanistan, flying F-16s. He flew 63 combat missions, earned three Air Medals, and was named the outstanding performer of the 480th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron's deployment.

He then went through the crucible of Weapons School, which forges promising airmen into leaders and tactical experts. Again, he distinguished himself in this challenging environment. When Lieutenant Colonel Entine graduated from Weapons School in December 2016, he became the chief of weapons and tactics in the 55th Fighter Squadron at Shaw Air Force Base. Shortly after arriving, he overhauled the base's training program. His boss said the new plan was "the best he's ever seen" and rated him first out of the 27 company-grade officers in the squadron.

In October 2017, Lieutenant Colonel Entine shipped off to Afghanistan again—this time to Bagram Airfield, not far from Kabul. He deployed as the wing weapons officer, where he advised the operations group commander and wing commander on tactics. He also worked with special operations forces conducting raids across the country. On one such raid in April 2018, Lieutenant Colonel Entine coordinated with two formations of F-16s, two AC-130s, three MQ-9 drones, and a ground controller who was on his very first combat mission during a day-long firefight with ISIS-K fighters. Lieutenant Colonel Entine employed weapons six times during the battle, three times within danger-close distances, and twice dropped bombs just 30 meters from friendly troops. Thanks to his heroic efforts, no Americans died, three were safely evacuated, and scores of enemy fighters were killed. And that was just one combat sortie out of the more than

70 he flew during a 180-plus-day deployment. Lieutenant Colonel Entine received the Air Medal with C device, a medal just beneath the Distinguished Flying Cross, for his courageous exploits that day. The Air Force Association also awarded him the Lieutenant General Clare Chennault award in 2018 as a “most outstanding aerial tactician.”

After 10 years on the frontlines, Lieutenant Colonel Entine moved to Florida, where he served in an operational test squadron. While there, he invented a method to use air-to-ground laser-guided rockets to shoot down cruise missiles. In December 2019, Lieutenant Colonel Entine proved the concept by shooting down a target drone over the Gulf of Mexico using an air-to-ground rocket. Lieutenant Colonel Entine and his team later recognized that the Air Force and Navy’s premier air-to-air missile, the AMRAAM, could reach ranges much longer than advertised, prompting the Air Force to launch its longest-ever air-to-air missile test in May of 2021.

Unsurprisingly, given his tireless tinkering and work ethic, Lieutenant Colonel Entine’s performance reports remained stellar. He left Eglin as top-rated major out of 158 and headed to Washington, DC, to represent the Air Force in Congress as a defense fellow.

While serving in my office, Lieutenant Colonel Entine solidified his position as a key member of my team. He quickly became a trusted adviser, especially concerning my duties as the AirLand Subcommittee Ranking Member on the Armed Services Committee. A true visionary, Lieutenant Colonel Entine led my initiative on a rated officer retention amendment which was incorporated into the FY23 NDAA. His fellow Air Force pilots owe Lieutenant Colonel Entine a debt of gratitude for his tireless work to provide his service with four additional retention related authorizations as part of this initiative. In total, Lieutenant Colonel Entine drafted nearly 70 pieces of legislation demonstrating an incredible ability to unify staff over bipartisan policy issues. Lieutenant Colonel Entine undoubtedly proved his worth as a member of my team, helping notch countless legislative victories.

Beyond legislation, Lieutenant Colonel Entine demonstrated an exceptional talent for hearing and nomination preparation and staff work. His work in this arena was distinct from any fellow we have had previously and, I suspect, that we will have ever again. This type of preparation is one of the most crucial functions of my staff, and Lieutenant Colonel Entine distinguished himself as an invaluable member of the team. Our office greatly benefited from his talents and keen insights. He attended over 58 Senate Armed Services Committee Hearings and staffed over 60 engagements.

Furthermore, Lieutenant Colonel Entine represented me on multiple staff delegations, conducting much

needed oversight and research on my behalf. On his trip to Honolulu, HI, to visit INDOPACOM, Lieutenant Colonel Entine was a key interlocutor, ensuring that my personal staff was well prepared to engage in technical discussions regarding the needs of the Air Force. His insights have helped shape my policy objectives for years to come. Lieutenant Colonel Entine also participated in a Naval Embark, a critical component of our oversight agenda related to my duties on the Seapower Subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee. I also remain grateful for the sacrifices of Lieutenant Colonel Entine’s family, as he spent time away from home, many hours, and late nights to ensure this crucial work was completed. Lieutenant Colonel Entine has had a remarkable career and he has a promising future ahead. He is exactly the kind of man and servicemember that our military needs in leadership. For these reasons and more, I was honored to have Lieutenant Colonel Entine in my office this year. Lieutenant Colonel Entine Slander thank you for your service to Arkansas and to the United States of America.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEAN A. WILLIAMS

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, I rise today to honor supervisory air interdiction agent Dean A. Williams for his steadfast service to the United States for the past 36 years and to wish him well on his retirement from Air and Marine Operations—AMO—U.S. Customs and Border Protection—CBP—Department of Homeland Security.

Born in Indiana and raised in New York City and Oklahoma, Dean attended Oklahoma State University and Tulsa Junior College. He earned an associate degree in respiratory therapy and later worked in a neonatal intensive care unit. Being a patriot and adventure seeker, Dean was drawn to military service and joined the Navy to pursue a career as a naval aviator.

In 1986, Dean reported to Naval Aviation Officer Candidate School, where he excelled in academics and physical fitness. Upon graduation, he was assigned to Naval Flight Training in Pensacola, FL, and earned his Wings of Gold. During his time serving on active duty in the Navy, Dean distinguished himself on missions, piloting the Navy’s medium lift, multimission helicopter, the SH-60 Seahawk, and also on several deployments aboard naval ships, where he held leadership positions, including Aviation Department Head aboard the USS Denver (LPD-9).

After his honorable discharge from the Navy in 1996, Dean furthered his education, earning a bachelor of science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. In 1997, he chose to continue his service to the United States by joining the U.S. Border Patrol, employing his skills as a senior patrol agent and pilot in San Diego and along the southwest border. In 2005, Dean became an air interdiction agent

(pilot) for AMO and was later promoted to supervisory air interdiction agent. At AMO, Dean served not only as a skilled helicopter and unmanned aircraft system pilot, but also in other integral positions, including northern border program manager and critical incident response team manager.

As accomplished as Dean has been in his previous roles, it is in his position as a congressional liaison where he excelled the most. In 2014, Dean was hand-picked by AMO leadership to represent the Agency as a member of the Border, Air, and Marine Operations Team at the CBP Office of Congressional Affairs. In this role, Dean served as the key adviser and subject matter expert on all AMO-related matters before Congress, including drafting legislation, responding to congressional inquiries, and carefully planning and executing congressional and staff delegation visits. He has been a stalwart supporter of AMO policy and funding priorities, especially those that support AMO personnel in the field. Notably, Dean is recognized as the main driver for the 2016 passage of Public Law 114-250, which makes all CBP law enforcement agents eligible for law enforcement availability pay. His determination to pass this legislation earned him respect both at AMO and on Capitol Hill.

In 2017, Dean was selected to serve as an AMO congressional fellow on Capitol Hill. He first served in the office of Senator Heidi Heitkamp, where he provided subject matter expertise on border security, air operations, and unmanned aircraft systems. In 2018, Dean became a fellow on the staff of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Government Operations and Border Management, which I chair. Committee members and staff alike greatly benefited from Dean’s wise counsel, friendly demeanor, and outstanding knowledge of border security, specifically air operations in Arizona and along the southwest border. His willingness to share his expertise and to dig in on critical policy matters was invaluable to the staff. His high-level work added greatly to the overall success of the subcommittee. Although he returned to AMO Headquarters in 2020, I am pleased that he continued to work closely with the subcommittee and other offices on Capitol Hill on AMO matters right up to his retirement.

Dean Williams’ 36 years of devoted service to our great Nation is a shining example of a life deserving of our gratitude. His meaningful contributions, talent, and endearing sense of humor have enriched us all. Dean will be missed, but I am happy to know that he will be able to spend more time with his wife Denise and his dog Ace. As they say in the Navy, I wish Dean fair winds and following seas in retirement.